



31 January 2020

FOI ref: 2641

Jason John Blake

By email: [foi+request-6012-c60f5fec@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-6012-c60f5fec@righttoknow.org.au)

Dear Jason John Blake

### Freedom of Information Request – Decision

I refer to your request to the Department of the Treasury (the **Treasury**) on 16 December 2019 for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the **FOI Act**) to the following:

*I required the documents of Financial Reports showing the revenue in the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the Commonwealth of Australia in accordance with the;  
Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act Chapter IV – Finance And Trade  
81. All revenues or moneys raised or received by the Executive Government of the Commonwealth shall form one Consolidated Revenue Fund, to be appropriated for the purposes of the Commonwealth in the manner and subject to the charges and liabilities imposed by this Constitution.*

*I required reports dating from 1966 until 2018/2019 financial years.  
The reason for this is as an informed registered elector, I must determine the fiscal policy claims by the Executive Parliament and be able to question my Federal Member on amounts collected against Budget claims.*

*I also require the document that was the Ministers and Secretaries decision to list COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA as a Corporation on the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. To be accompanied with all financial reports where payments are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund from COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Corporation (US).*

I am an authorised decision maker under section 23 of the FOI Act.

### Decision

The Treasury holds no documents within the scope of your request. I am therefore refusing your request under section 24A(1) of the FOI Act.

I arranged for officers in my division to search Treasury records for material relevant to your request. I am satisfied that no such documents exist.

## **Additional information**

There is some publicly available information that may assist with your request set out below.

### ***Consolidated Revenue Fund***

The Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) is not a single bank account or delineated fund. It is a term that embraces the money held in Commonwealth bank accounts and funds, and certain money held in the custody of, or on behalf of, Non-Corporate Commonwealth Entities. The Department of Finance prepares Consolidated Financial Statements (CFS) for the Australian Government each financial year, with statements dating back to 1995-96 accessible online at

<https://www.finance.gov.au/publications/commonwealth-consolidated-financial-statements>.

In addition to the CFS, the Commonwealth General Government Sector's fiscal outcomes compared with the Budget estimates and historical fiscal data is publicly available in Final Budget Outcome reports, accessible online via <https://budget.gov.au/>.

### ***Documents held by the National Archives Authority***

Your request sought documents created before 2000. Documents created before 2000 are subject to the *Archives Act 1983*. Under the Archives Act 1983 most government documents are disclosed when they reach the 'open access period'; except for Cabinet documents. Agencies send documents they are required to keep to the National Archives Authority.

Requests for documents created before 2000 can be made to the National Archives Authority. The [National Archives website](#) provides information on how to apply for access to the department's archival records. Applications need to be lodged with the National Archives of Australia and should be addressed to:

- **Fax:** 1300 886 882
- **Mail:**  
National Archives of Australia  
P O Box 7425  
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610

### **Rights of Review**

A statement setting out your rights of review in this matter is attached.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Rollings  
Division Head  
Budget Policy Division

## INFORMATION ON RIGHTS OF REVIEW

### 1. APPLICATION FOR INTERNAL REVIEW OF DECISION

Section 54 of the Freedom of Information Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of the decision refusing to grant access to documents in accordance with your request.

An application for a review of the decision must be made in writing within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required but it would assist the decision-maker if you could set out in the application the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed.

An application for a review of the decision should be emailed to [FOI@Treasury.gov.au](mailto:FOI@Treasury.gov.au).

**OR**

### 2. APPLICATION TO AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION COMMISSIONER (INFORMATION COMMISSIONER) FOR REVIEW OF DECISION

Section 54L of the FOI Act gives you the right to seek a review of the decision from the Information Commissioner. An application for review must be made within 60 days of receiving the decision.

An application for review must be in writing and must:

- give details of how notices must be sent to you; and
- include a copy of the notice of decision.

You should send your application for review to:

The Information Commissioner  
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner  
GPO Box 5218  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

**AND/OR**

### 3. COMPLAINTS TO THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

Section 70 of the FOI Act provides that a person may complain to the Information Commissioner about action taken by an agency in the exercise of powers or the performance of functions under the FOI Act.

A complaint to the Information Commissioner must be in writing and identify the agency the complaint is about. It should be directed to the following address:

The Information Commissioner  
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner  
GPO Box 5218  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

The Information Commissioner may decline to investigate the complaint in a number of circumstances, including that you did not exercise your right to ask the agency, the Information Commissioner, a court or tribunal to review the decision.